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THE MINUTES

OF THE

Ninth Annual Session

OF THE

Blue Ridge Missionary Baptist and Educational Convention

HELD WITH THE

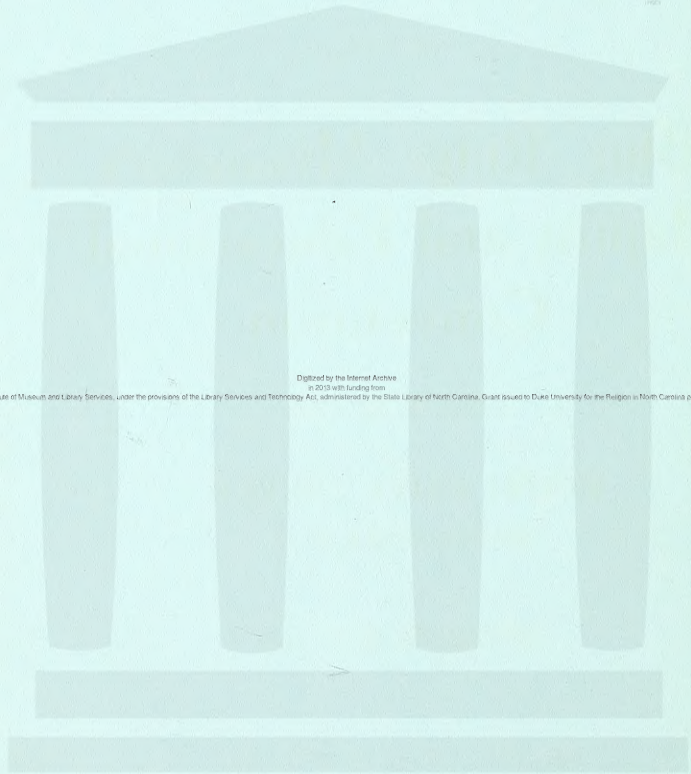
MOUNT OLIVE CHURCH

WAYNESVILLE, N. C.

SEPTEMBER 22-25, 1927

President, DR. A. H. WILSON
Secretary, REV. JOHN H. DAVIS

The next Annual Session to be held with the Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Asheville, N. C. Beginning Wednesday before the Fourth Sunday in September, 1928.



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OFFICERS OF CONVENTION

President

DR. A. H. WILSON, ... Brevard, N. C.

Vice-President

DR. W. M. HAMILTON, 291, Ashland Ave., ... Asheville, N. C.

Recording Secretary

REV. JOHN H. DAVIS, ... Sylva, N. C.

Corresponding Secretary

REV. J. H. SMITH, ... Brevard, N. C.

Treasurer

DEACON A. J. JAMISON, 211 Ashland Ave., ... Asheville, N. C.

Auditor

BROTHER J. W. STROUD, ... Asheville, N. C.

Statistician

REV. A. M. WILEY, ... Murphy, N. C.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

A. H. WILSON, ... Brevard
W. M. HAMILTON, ... Asheville
JOHN H. DAVIS, ... Sylva
J. H. SMITH, ... Brevard
J. W. STROUD, ... Asheville
A. J. JAMISON, ... Asheville, N. C.
A. M. WILEY, ... Murphy
A. S. COPENY, ... Waynesville
JAMES S. RITCHIE, ... Canton
W. F. LOVE, ... Dillsboro
W. M. HERBERT, ... Hayesville

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A. H. WILSON, ... Brevard
W. M. HAMILTON, ... Asheville
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A. J. JAMISON, ... Asheville
W. M. HERBERT, ... Hayesville
W. A. GRAY, ... Iotla
J. C. COLEMAN, ... Franklin
A. S. COPENY, ... Waynesville
THOS. PICKENS, ... Sylva
M. W. WELLS, ... Dillsboro
J. W. HAIRSTON, ... Asheville

ORDAINED MINISTERS

J. W. HAIRSTON, ... Asheville
A. H. WILSON, ... Brevard
A. S. COPENY, ... Waynesville
W. M. HAMILTON, ... Asheville
J. H. SMITH, ... Brevard
W. F. LOVE, ... Dillsboro
A. M. WILEY, ... Murphy
J. E. CHAMBERS, ... Franklin
N. G. COX, ... Sylva
J. S. RITCHIE, ... Canton
W. M. HERBERT, ... Hayesville
W. T. YOUNG, ... Arden
W. M. WHITMIRE, ... Canton
J. T. DUKE, ... Asheville
C. DORSEY, ... Sylva
JOHN H. DAVIS, ... Sylva
A. H. STILLWELL, ... Asheville
R. C. STOVER, ... Leaksville
J. H. GUDGER, ... Asheville

VISITING MINISTERS

DR. H. M. SMITH, ... Charlotte, N. C.
DR. J. A. BRANNON, ... West Asheville, N. C.
REV. C. C. ROBINSON, ... Asheville, N. C.
DR. J. T. HAIRSTON, ... Greensboro, N. C.
REV. L. B. BIRGE, ... Spindale, N. C.

PROCEEDINGS

The Blue Ridge Missionary Baptist and Educational Convention met in its Ninth Annual Session with the Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Waynesville, N. C., September 22, 1927 at 10:30 A. M. Rev. A. S. Copeny, Pastor.

Devotional services were led by the President, Dr. A. H. Wilson. He opened the services by singing, "I Love Thy Kingdom Lord." He read for a scripture lesson the ninth chapter of St. John, including the first nine verses.

Rev. C. C. Robinson led in prayer.

The second hymn lined by the conductor of the praise services, "Go Preach My Gospel Saith the Lord."

11:00 A. M. Dr. W. M. Hamilton ascended the rostrum according to the program to preach the Introductory Sermon, assisted by Rev. W. F. Love.

Rev. Love opened the divine services by singing, "What A Friend We Have in Jesus."

The speaker read for a scripture lesson the 10th chapter of St. Luke, including the first sixteen verses.

Rev. Love sang for a second hymn, "Why Should We start and Fear to Die."

The President came forth and introduced the speaker of the hour.

Dr. Hamilton arose and took for a text the seventeenth chapter of St. John and the latter clause of the eleventh verse: "Holy Father keep through thy own name those whom thou has given me that they may be one as we are. Subject: Oneness in Christ.

Dr. Hamilton vividly pictured very effectively the great need of oneness in Christ, and the united prayer of the church. He spoke with profound interest upon the pressing needs of Western North Carolina and the gospel call to oneness from the mountains to the sea. Everyone present was highly lifted up through the great message.

Rev. N. C. Cox carried us to the throne of Grace.

Dr. J. W. Hairston spoke in complimentary terms of the sermon, and emphasized some of the points well suggested by the speaker with much enthusiasm following.

Dr. J. T. Hairston, moderator of the Rowan Baptist Association and pastor of the Shilow Baptist Church, Greensboro, N. C., was introduced to the Convention. He brought us greetings from the Rowan Association.

Dr. Hairston spoke also, very impressively of the need of unity in Western North Carolina and the Old North State at large, for the general uplift of the Baptist Denomination and the establishment of an up to date secondary school for the moral, educational, and religious training of the boys and girls of the race.

Sister C. Wilson, Missionary of Charlotte, N. C., Dr. H. M. Smith, Pastor of the First Baptist Church, Charlotte, N. C., Dr. Brannon, Pastor of First Baptist Church, West Asheville, N. C, were introduced to the Convention. Time did not permit these distinguished visitors to speak since the hour of adjournment was at hand. Collection $2.25.

Benediction, Dr. W. M. Hamilton.

AFTERNOON SESSION

2:30 P. M. The Conveniton reassembled.

Devotional services were conducted by Revs. N. G. Cox and J. H. Gudger.

Rev. Cox opened the praise services by singing, ' 'A Few

More Years May Come."

Rev. Gudger read for a scripture lesson the twenty-third division of the Psalms, including the first six verses.

Prayer was offered by Deacon W. M. Powell.

The second hymn led by Rev. N. C. Cox, "That Awful Day Shall Surely Come."

The President called the house to order for the transaction of business.

The program prepared by the Recording Secretary for the Convention was read and adopted after the filling of vacancies.

Motion prevailed that Rev. J. T. Dukes be placed on program as alternate to Rev. A. S. Copeny to preach the Doctrinal Sermon on Thursday evening at 8:30 o'clock.

Sister Capitola Wilson, Missionary and Teacher, Charlotte, N. C., was asked to address the Convention. She made a splendid address in short upon "The Training of the Young People to See Christ," and made a forcible plea for Foreign Missions.

Dr. H. M. Smith, Charlotte, N. C., followed Sister Wilson with a very enthusiastic address. He referred to the great Christian work of Sister Wilson, and the consecration of her life to the service of God and the general uplift of her race. He, also, urged very strongly the planting of an institution of learning for the Baptist Denomination, in Western North Carolina, and the enlistment of more men and women in the Baptist church who will proclaim with undaunted courage one Lord, one faith, and one baptism.

Dr. A. S. Copeny responded with interest in concurrence with the splendid address made by Dr. Smith.

Dr. J. A. Brannon, West Asheville, N. C., addressed the convention upon "The Establishment of Contact of the Brotherhood and the Result of Such Relation," and also brought to us greetings from the Mud Creek Baptist Association. He commended the idea of mental development in church organizations of the Baptist Denomination through well prepared leadership. He proclaimed in an exclamatory manner and with befitting words the necessity of establishing a high institution of learning for the specific training of the Baptist youth in Western North Carolina, so that they may quench their thirst in the time of the drought by drinking from the delectable mount of God.

Rev. C. C. Robinson, Asheville, N. C., was presented to the Convention. He referred to Dr. Hamilton's sermon by emphasizing the subject of his text, Christian Oneness. He, also, spoke upon Christianity and the Purity of Character. He pointed to Jesus Christ as the only medium for the redemption of man, and not the

philosophy of this world. He condemned evolution and all other sciences contrary to the word of God.

ENROLLMENT OF DELEGATES

ASSOCIATIONS:

French Broad, Revs. J. W. Hairston and J. T. Dukes.

Waynesville, Revs. A. S. Copeny, J. S. Ritchie and W. M. Herbert.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTIONS:

Cane River, (Not Represented.)

Waynesville, Deacon W. A. Gray.

CHURCHES:

Webster, Rev. W. F. Love.

Liberty, Sylva, Deacon M. C. Whittenburg.

Mt. Zion, Asheville, Deacon A. J. Jamison.

Brevard, Deacons M. V. Mills and J. P. Killian

Riverview, Deacon M. W. Wells.

Mt. Zion, Murphy, Deacons G. A. S. Fullwood and M. W. Powell.

Bethlehem, Franklin, Deacon J. C. Coleman and Rev. J. E. Chambers.

St. Matthew, Asheville, Rev. J. H. Gudger.

Mt. Olive, Asheville, Brother T. W. Stroud.

Waynesville, Deacon A. Harris.

Elk Mountain, Rev. J. H. Gudger.

ANNUAL MEMBERS:

DR. J. T. HAIRSTON, ... Greensboro, N. C.
DR. C. C. ROBINSON, ... Asheville, N. C.
REV. J. E. CHAMBERS, ... Franklin, N. C.
DR. J. A. BRANNON, ... West Asheville, N. C.

Rev. J. E. Chambers was introduced to the Convention. He made some very pleasing remarks that were enjoyable.

Brother T. W. Stroud and Rev. W. F. Love made some interesting remarks.

Partial report of the Finance Committee was read and adopted.

Remarks were made by Sister Zelia Wells and Dr. A. H. Wilson.

The pastor appointed the delegates and visitors to their places

of abode.

Benediction, Dr. A. H. Wilson.

EVENING SESSION:

8:00 P. M. Devotional services were led by Rev. W. T. Young. He opened the services by singing, "Come Ye That Loves the Lord."

Prayer was offered by Deacon J. C. Coleman.

A general praise service followed that kindled within our hearts the Saviour's loving and tender care.

Dr. A. S. Copeny came forth and extended a hearty welcome to the Convention with pleasing words that made every delegate and visitor feel much at home.

Dr. J. W. Hairston, after complimenting Waynesville in the highest terms because of its delightful scenery and grandeur, peaceful surroundings, splendid homes, beautiful churches, and refreshing streams, responded with much interest in behalf of the Convention to the Welcome Address.

The speaker of the hour, Dr. R. E. Stover, ascended the rostrum according to previous arrangements to preach the Doctrinal Sermon.

Rev. J. E. Chambers opened the divine services by singing, "Go Preach the Gospel Saith the Lord."

Dr. A. S. Copeny came forth and introduced the speaker of the hour.

Dr. Stover arose and took for a text, the first chapter of Nehemiah and the fourth and eleventh verses: And it came to pass when I heard these words that I sat down and wept and mourn certain days and fasted before God of heaven. O Lord I beseech Thee, let now thine ear be attentive to the prayer of thy servants and to the prayer of thy servants whose desire to fear they name; and prosper I pray thee thy servant this day and grant him mercy in the sight of this man for I was the King's cup bearer. Subject: Nehemiah's Prayer.

Dr. Stover preached quite a soul stirring sermon that was much enjoyed by all of his hearers.

Prayer was offered by Dr. J. T. Hairston. Collection, $3.30.

Side collection for Dr. R. C. Stover, $3.20.

Benediction, Dr. R. C. Stover.

SECOND DAY SESSION

9:30 A. M. Devotional services were enjoyably conducted by Dr. W. M. Herbert. After the singing the songs of praise and

sending homeward, the throne of grace, our sincere petitions, the house was called to order by the president for business.

The minutes of the Convention were read and adopted.

Brother T. W. Stroud made a short address upon the great need of well prepared office holders in the Convention.

Dr. J. W. Hairston suggested some plans for representation that would be fairer for all churches of the Convention and more lucrative for the raising of means for the various objects of the body.

Motion prevailed that the Convention accept the five dollars from the Wayvesnille Sunday School Convention for representation.

The following distinguished visitors were introduced to the Convention: Prof. E. T. Wilson, Rev. L. B. Birge and Deacon J. L. Miller, Spindale, N. C. They made some very pleasing remarks that were heartily received.

The following committees were appointed: Education, Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Place of Next Annual Session, Temperance, Revision of the Constitution, Ways and Means, Special Sermons, Appropriations, and Obituaries.

Rev. W. M. Hamilton and John H. Davis suggested some ideas essential for the committees to consider for the good of the Baptists of Western North Carolina.

Dr. J. S. Ritchie spoke upon the importance of changing the gear, and the entrance into something tangible for the good of the denomination.

Motion prevailed that all committees be excused for one hour for the purpose of making out their reports.

Recess.

AFTERNOON SESSION

2:00 P. M. Devotional services were conducted by Rev. N. G. Cox. He opened the services by singing, "My Soul Be On Thy Guard." He read for a scripture lesson the second chapter of first Corinthians.

Prayer was offered by Brother Ruebin Turner.

The second hymn lined was "Bless Be the Tie That Binds."

The President called the house to order for the transaction of business.

The Committee on Education reported and the same was adopted.

Discussion—Is the Consolidation of the Baptists of Western North Carolina a Tangible Affair? If so, How Can It Be Accom-

plished?

Dr. J. W. Hairston in leading this discussion, first, clearly defined the space and boundary of Western North Carolina. He then answered the question of discussion in the affirmative. He made very obvious the many impediments that have kept us apart. He proclaimed that public ostentation and absolute monarchy among the ministerial ranks and other high church officials have been the greatest hindrance in the getting together of the Baptists of Western North Carolina as well gross ignorance and vice in the government of the churches. He said such evil influences that have and to some extent now exist should be exterminated.

He showed the possibility of Western North Carolina with her present numerical strength, and what would be the result by putting our moral, financial, and spiritual strength together. He said we should get together on missions and education. He spoke very extensively on the Educational Program and the real cost of putting on foot a desirable institution of learning.

Dr. J. S. Ritchie spoke very enthusiastically on what should be done before the Baptists of Western North Carolina could get together and put over a desirable program.

He gave the history of the Convention from its incipiency, narrating the hardships and sacrifices of the loyal few armour bearers, and the solution of the problems that now confronts it.

He suggested the organizing of the Baptists from Greensboro to Murphy into one great host for the future betterment of the denomination. This, he said, would result into the equiping of the machinery for the making of the west what it should be.

A motion prevailed that the Blue Ridge Baptist and Educational Convention negotiate with the Spindale Academy officials for the purpose of stipulating some plans of cooperation with them in their educational project.

A resolution was read by Rev. J. H. Davis and adopted.

The report of the Treasurer was read and adopted.

Committees on Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Temperance, Place of Next Annual Session read their reports, and they were all adopted without discussion.

Motion prevailed that a committee of five be appointed to negotiate with the Spindale Academy officials and to carry out the plans of the Convention. (See appendix.)

Adjournment.

EVENING SESSION

8:00 P. M. Song services were enjoyably conducted by Brother J. W. Stroud.

Prayer was offered by Dr. W. M. Hamilton.

The services were continued by singing, "O For a Closer Walk With God."

The President introduced Prof. E. T. Wilson, President of the Spindale Academy, to the Convention.

Prof. Wilson addressed the Convention on the subject: "The Emancipation and the Emancipator." He emphasized the great need of the denomination emancipating herself from the curse of ignorance and vice. To do this great and all important work, it would be necessary for the establishment of a first class school owned and operated by the Baptist denomination in Western North Carolina.

He referred to the slavery of our fore-fathers and their emancipation from the bonds of slavery, but now we were looking for the emancipator to come and to emancipate us from the chains of ignorance and to loose our feet from the shackles of vice, crime, and sin.

He plunged deeply into the essentials that should be exercised so that the attitude of the Baptists in the Piedmont and mountain sections of the State could be genuinely converted into higher aspirations and become more determined to take the upward march to progress along the line of education.

According to arrangements, Dr. J. T. Hairston, Moderator of the Rowan Baptist Association, ascended the rostrum to preach the Educational Sermon.

Dr. J. W. Hairston, Pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Asheville, N. C., introduced the speaker.

The speaker of the hour arose and took for a text, First Samuel, the tenth chapter and the twenty-sixth verse: And Saul also went home to Gibeah; and there went with him a band of men whose hearts God had touched. Subject: God Touched Men.

Dr. Hairston forcibly and well verified the results of the lives of men whose hearts had been touched by our heavenly Father. His message thrilled every heart under the sound of his voice, and the church was set on hallowed fire. He made an earnest appeal for more such characters to be installed in our churches, associations, and conventions.

Collection, $31.16.

Side collection for Dr. J. T. Hairston, $7.55; Prof. E. T. Wilson, $3.10.

Benediction, Dr. A. H. Wilson.

THIRD DAY SESSION

9:30 A. M. Devotional services were conducted by Dr. W. F. Love.

He read for a scripture lesson the third chapter of St. Matthew, including the first nine verses.

Dr. J. W. Hairston led in prayer.

Rev. Love lined for a second hymn, "Sinners, Rise Thee From Thy Sleep."

The President called the house to order for the transaction of business.

Motion prevailed that the minutes of the preceding day be adopted.

Motion prevailed that the word 'unite' in the Educational Report (with the Spindale Academy) be stricken out and it shall read thus: that the convention send a commission to confer with them upon the line of cooperation.

Motion prevailed that the president be given the power to appoint the committee to confer with Trustees of the Spindale Academy.

Motion prevailed that the committee consist of five members.

Deacon J. M. Miller, Rev. L. B. Burge, and Prof. E. T. Wilson made their parting or good-by remarks. They were very pleasing and encouraging.

Dr. W. F. Love made some remarks of interest to the convention.

A resolution was read by Rev. John H. Davis and the same was adopted.

Motion prevailed that Revs. W. M. Herbert and J. S. Ritchie be added to the original committee to confer with the Trustees of Spindale Academy.

Remarks were made by the various members of the committee who were to confer with the Trustees of the Spindale Academy. Their attitude seemed to be harmonious.

Recess.

11:00 A. M. Dr. F. Wright ascended the rostrum to preach unto us the gospel message.

Dr. W. F. Love lined hymn, "How Firm a Foundation."

Dr. W. M. Herbert introduced the speaker.

The speaker arose and took for a text the fourth chapter of St. John and the thirty first verse, including the last two clauses: Lift up your eyes and look on the fields for they are white already to harvest. Subject: A Call to Service.

Dr. Wright emphasized in his great message the need of the concentration of our forces upon the fields of harvest, and that

we need to take the work at heart and go forward; we should proceed thoughtfully and sincerely. He said we should make an engagement through the medium of our intellectual telescope and illuminate the way for those who may be in darkness and without a vision. He said, "As we labor we should consider our personality for it meant much to our success in the fields of harvest. Dr. Wright enthused everyone that heard him.

Collection, $2.00.

Side collection for Dr. F. Wright, $2.50.

Rev. R. G. Canada, Pastor of the City Zion Methodist church and Prof. C. P. Patton, Principal of the City Graded School, were introduced to the convention. The lateness of the hour did not permit them to speak. They were cordially invited to return to the afternoon session.

By motion the convention adjourned until 3:00 P. M.

Benediction, Rev. W. M. Herbert.

AFTERNOON SESSION

3:00 P. M. Devotional services were led by Rev. J. H. Gudger. He opened the services by singing, " I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say."

Rev. J. T. Duke read for a scripture lesson the thirty-ninth division of the Psalms, including the first fifteen verses.

Rev. J. E. Chambers led in prayer.

The second hymn, "Amazing Grace How Sweet the Sound."

The President called the house to order for the transaction of business.

Motion prevailed that the minutes of the morning session be adopted.

By the common consent of the body, it was approved that the convention have memorial services on Saturday evening at 8.30 o'clock.

Committee on Ways and Means reported to the Convention and the same adopted.

The report of the Committee on Constitution was read and adopted.

Motion prevailed that Thursday be stricken out of the constitution and that Wednesday be inserted.

The report on Special Sermons was read and adopted.

Dr. J. T. Hairston made a plea for Shaw University and stressed the duty of all the Baptists in every section of North Carolina to this school that has done so much for the race, especially the Baptist denomination.

By the suggestion of Rev. John H. Davis a collection was taken. The amount raised, $10.55. This amount was turned over to Dr. J. W. Hairston to be sent to Shaw University.

The Woman's Auxiliary made a partial report to the Convention.

Motion prevailed that the Convention donate to Revs. A. H. Stillwell, J. E. Chambers, and W. T. Young two dollars each.

Adjournment.

EVENING SESSION

8:00 P. M. The Woman's Auxiliary rendered a very excellent Literary Program consisting of solos, duets, choruses and recitations. Mistress of Ceremonies, Sister A. Babb.

9:00 P. M. Divine services were opened by singing, "Go Preach My Gospel Saith the Lord."

Dr. H. M. Smith was introduced to the Convention as the messenger at this hour. He took for a text the first chapter of Mark and the seventeenth verse: And Jesus said, come after me and I will make you fishers of men.

Dr. Smith well portrayed to his audience how they could become the fishers of men. He used the ordinary fishing tackle to illustrate the how.

He said the fishing pole is prayer; the line is faith; the hook is love.

Dr. Smith very skillfully used this splendid metaphor in bringing out the 'how' to become fishers of men.

Prayer was fervently offered by Rev. W. T. Young.

Collection, $8.00.

Side collection for Dr. H. M. Smith.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

Dr. W. P. Hamilton sang, "Why Do We Mourn Departing Friends."

Prayer by Dr. W. F. Love.

Rev. N. G. Cox sang, "Nearer My God to Thee."

Benediction, Dr. A. H. Wilson.

FOURTH DAY SESSION

10:00 A. M. Sunday School Mass Meeting was conducted with much interest by Revs. W. M. Hamilton, John H. Davis, and Brother T. W. Stroud.

Collection, $2.56.

Benediction, Dr. A. H. Wilson.

11:00 A. M. Devotional services were led by Revs. N. G. Cox, W. F. Love, and J. E. Chambers.

Rev. Love opened the services by singing, "There Is A Fountain Filled With Blood."

Rev. J. E. Chambers led in prayer.

The second hymn, "Go Preach My Gospel Saith the Lord" was lined by Rev. Cox.

The speaker, Dr. A. H. Wilson, was introduced by the Vice-President, Dr. W. M. Hamilton to a large waiting congregation of anxious hearers.

Dr. Wilson took his text from the twentieth chapter of St. Matthew and the nineteenth verse: Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. Subject: The Great Commission.

Dr. Wilson's message was historical, instructive, and spiritual. He biographically pictured the life of the consecrated disciple, John, the Baptist, from his incipiency as well as prophetically, and as the introducer to an unsaved world a redeemer, the Prince of Peace, and author of the text, the Great Commission.

Dr. Wilson was indeed at his best. There was much rejoicing manifested by the saints and all of those who knew of the Saviour's love by regeneration.

Prayer was fervently offered by Dr. A. M. Wiley.

A resolution of thanks was read by Dr. H. M. Smith and the same was adopted.

Collection, $4.25.

Missionaries, $12.57.

Side collection for Dr. A. H. Wilson, $11.90.

Benediction, Dr. A. H. Wilson.

APPENDIX

Report on Place for Next Annual Session.

Brother President, we, your committee on Place for Next Annual Session, beg leave to report: We recommend that the next Annual Session of the Convention be held with the Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Asheville, N. C.

Your committee,

Revs. J. T. Dukes, N. G. Cox, W. F. Young, and Deacon M. C. Whittenburg, A. J. Jamison, W. A. Gray, J. R. Killian, M. W. Wells, J. C. Coleman.

HOME MISSIONS

Brother President, we, your committee on Home Missions report as follows: Whereas we see the great need of spreading the gospel for the salvation of man, we therefore recommend that we send out competent men and women who will sacrifice their lives and time for this great cause and take Christ as their support; we further recommend that the Missionary urge the people to contribute something for the cause of education so that the cause may be strengthened through their Christian influence.

Respectfully submitted,

Revs. W. F. Love, W. M. Herbert, N. G. Cox, and Deacons W. M. Powell, W. A. Gray.

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Brother President, we, your committee on Foreign Missions, beg leave to report as follows: Whereas the Holy Bible teaches, it is God's will that the world be saved through the preaching of the gospel, therefore we recommend to our churches that a special service be held sometime during the year, and that the importance of Foreign Missions be emphasized and that the entire collection be sent to the Convention; and whereas the National Baptist Convention is doing its Foreign Mission Work through the Lott Cary Convention, therefore we do recommend that we send our Foreign Mission money to the Lott Cary Convention.

Your committee,

Dr. J. W. Hairston, Brother M. V. Mills, Revs. J. T. Dukes, J. H. Gudger, Deacon M. W. Wells.

WAYS AND MEANS

Brother President, we, your committee on Ways and Means, report as follows: We recommend that we set ourselves to the task of raising $1000.00 for education and bringing the same up to the next Annual Session of the Convention.

The method to be as follows: We recommend that we hold to the $5.00 per church as heretofore, in addition to this, we recommend that each church will bring to the Convention at least, ten cents per capita for education, and that in order to raise this ten cents per capita, we recommend that beginning January the first, nineteen hundred twenty-eight that each church appoint a committee or board in said church whose duty shall be to begin at once to collect this per capita from each member of said church

and that this money shall not be placed into the regular treasury of the church, but shall be held in the Educational Treasury for the Convention at the next annual session.

Your committee,

Dr. J. W. Hairston, Dr. H. M. Smith, Rev. W. M. Herbert, Rev. R. C. Stover, Prof. John H. Davis, Dr. J. T. Hairston, Dr. W. M. Hamilton, Brother T. W. Stroud.

TEMPERANCE

Brother President, we, your committee, beg leave to report as follows:

Whereas the result of intemperance is seen in the general conduct of the public through the participation in the use and manufacture and sale of intoxicant liquors, therefore we do recommend that this Convention take the following steps: (1) First that this Convention go on record by voting a hundred percent to support the National Prohibition, and use sentiment and method in suppressing the liquor traffic; (2) that all the pastors throughout the bounds of the convention preach a special temperance sermon to his people on the first Sunday in each quarter during tne year; (3) that the Executive Board of the Convention take under consideration, to make Friday afternoon during each annual sitting of Convention an hour for a Temperance Sermon.

Respectfully submitted,

Brother J. W. Stroud, Dr. J. W. Hairston, Dr. R. C. Stover, Deacon J. C. Coleman, Deacon Thos. Pickens.

REPORT ON PERIODICALS

Brother President, we, your committee on Periodicals, beg leave to report as follows: We recommend that this Convention patronize and adopt the Union Reformer published at Raleigh, N. C., as the organ of this Convention.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. R. C. Stover, Deacon A. J. Jamison, Rev. A. S. Copeny, Deacon M. V. Mills, Deacon Thos. Pickens.

REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION

Brother President, we, your Committee on Revision of the Constitution, report as follows: We recommend that Article II shall read thus: The object of this Convention shall be to evangelize the people through the gospel of Jesus Christ, to do Home and Foreign Mission work, and to establish or foster an institu-

tion of learning in Western North Carolina, for the intellectual training of the boys and girls of the race.

Article III shall read thus: The Convention shall be composed of Associations, Conventions, Missionary Baptist Churches and their auxiliaries.

Article IV shall read thus: Each association or convention, may send one or more delegates who shall bring a letter certifying their appointment and ten dollars as a representation fee, and the amounts contributed for the various objects of the Convention.

Article V shall read thus: Each church and its auxiliaries may represent by letter or by one or more delegates who shall bear a letter certifying their election and five dollars as a representation fee.

Article VI shall read thus: All Baptist members in good and regular standing with his church can become an annual member by paying fifty cents.

Article VII, Section I, shall read thus: This body shall have the following officers: president, vice-president, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, treasurer, auditor, and statistician, a board of trustees, and executive board.

Section II. Each of the above named officers shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the members present.

Respectfully submitted,

Revs. W. M. Hamilton, R. C. Stover, A. H. Stillwell, J. T. Dukes, J. W. Hairston, Brother J. A. Fullwood, Deacon W. A. Gray.

EDUCATION

Brother President, we, your Committee on Education, report as follows: Whereas science is the great watch word of today with every enterprise whether it be commercial or religious, and whereas, it is impossible to work efficiently without preparation, and whereas the call of science comes to preacher, deacon, layman, church, and school alike in state, therefore we earnestly and prayerfully ask the cooperation of all Christian workers to keep the lamp of education alert in the minds of our young people, and therefore we do recommend: (1) that this convention assembled go down on record as standing squarely for the symmetrical development of the young men and women within its bound; (2) that a renewed effort be made by all of our brethren and denominational constituencies within the Conventional boundary that God's great name be magnified and that his kingdom may come within

the hearts of men and women; (3) that we endorse the comprehensive educational program that North Carolina is now promoting for the good of all the citizens of the State; (4) that since the Educational and Missionary Convention of Western North Carolina has united with other forces of Western North Carolina for the purpose of fostering an "A" grade secondary school, therefore we do heartily recommend that the Blue Ridge Missionary Baptist and Educational Convention cooperate to the fullest extent with the Educational and Missionary Convention of Western North Carolina in the pro-execution of this program; (5) that we highly endorse and pledge our moral and financial support to Shaw University.

Your committee,

Revs. R. C. Stover, Ch., J. T. Hairston, C. C. Robinson, W. M. Hamilton, and Prof. E. T. Wilson.

SPECIAL SERMONS

Brother President, we your Committee on Special Sermons, report as follows: Introductory Sermon, Rev. W. F. Love; alternate, Rev. A. M. Wiley; Doctrinal Sermon, Dr. J. W. Hairston; Alternate, Rev. A. S. Copeny; Educational Sermon, Rev. R. C. Stover; Alternate, Rev. J. H. Davis; Temperance Sermon, Rev. J. T. Duke; Alternate, Rev. J. E. Chambers; Missionary Sermon, Dr. A. H. Wilson; Alternate, Dr. J. S. Ritchie.

Your committee,

J. E. Chambers, W. A. Gray, R. C. Stover.

REPORT OF WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Brother President, we, the authorized representatives of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Blue Ridge Missionary Baptist and Educational Convention beg leave to make the following financial report for the Conventional Year, 1926-1927.

The total above expenses $60.12. The same we have turned over to the Finance Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

ZELIA WELLS, President

MARY GYWN, Secretary.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Brother President, I beg leave to make the following report for the Fiscal Year of 1926-1927 which is as follows:

Placed in bank at the sale of the property owned in the city of Asheville, $11,590.88. Brought forward interest, $351.19. Total in bank, $11,942.07.

A loan of $10,000 was made to the Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Asheville, N. C., with interest of 6 per cent, April 14, 1927, Dr. J. W. Hairston, pastor in charge, and Deacon A. J. Jamison, chairman of the Deacon Board, the authorized representatives of the church.

A check of $100 was drawn by the president to pay some of the current expenses of the convention.

Brought forward above the loan or the surplus in bank, $1,842.07. Interest on this amount to date, $73.68. Interest on the $10,000 for 1 year $600. Interest on the $1,842.07 for 1 year, $73.68. Total amount of interest for year, $673.68. Paid the President, $100 for current expenses, leaving the total amount of interest, $573.68.

The total amount on hand, $12,515.75.

Respectfully submitted,

A. J. JAMISON, Treasurer.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

ASSOCIATIONS

French Broad	$10.00
Waynesville,	10.00
Total	$20.00

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

Waynesville	$ 5.00
Cane River, (not represented)	
Total	$ 5.00

CHURCHES

Mt. Zion, Asheville	$ 5.00
Brevard,	5.00
Liberty, Sylva	5.00
Mt. Olive, Waynesville	5.00
Elk Mountain	5.00
Mt. Olive, Asheville	4.00
Mt. Zion, Murphy	3.00
Weaverville,	2.50
Bethlehem, Franklin,	2.00
River View, Dillsboro,	2.00
Webster,	2.00
TOTAL	$40.50

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Thursday, 11:00 A. M.	$ 2.25
Thursday, 8:30 P. M.	13.39
Friday, 8:30 P. M.	31.16
Saturday, 11:00 A. M.	2.00
Saturday, 8:30 P. M.	8.00
Sunday, 9:30 A. M.	2.56
Sunday, 11:00 A. M.	4.25
TOTAL	$63.52

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Dr. J. T. Hairston,	$1.00
Dr. C. C. Robinson,	1.00
Dr. J. A. Brannon,	1.00
Rev. J. E. Chambers,	1.00
TOTAL	$4.00

SIDE COLLECTIONS

Dr. R. E. Stover,	$ 3.20
Prof. E. T. Wilson,	3.10
Dr. J. T. Hairston,	7.55
Dr. F. Wright,	2.00
Dr. H. M. Smith,	6.50
Dr. A. H. Wilson,	12.57
Shaw University,	10.55
TOTAL	$45.47
Woman's Auxiliary,	$60.12

FROM ALL SOURCES

Associations,	$ 20.00
S. S. Convention,	5.00
Churches,	40.50
Public Collections,	63.52
Annual Memberships,	4.00
Woman's Auxiliary,	60.12
Side Collections,	45.47
Grand total raised,	$238.61

APPROPRIATIONS

President,	$ 45.22
Vice President,	20.08
Recording Secretary,	31.47
Corresponding Secretary,	12.58
Treasurer,	10.96
Auditor,	5.08
Mt. Olive Church,	12.00
TOTAL,	$137.39

TRUSTEE BOARD

Deacon W. A. Gray,	$ 5.18
Dr. J. W. Hairston,	10.96
Rev. J. S. Ritchie,	4.22
Rev. W. F. Love,	1.50
Rev. W. M. Herbert,	16.36
Deacon Thos. Pickens,	3.42
Rev. A. S. Copeny,	3.18
Deacon J. C. Coleman,	8.65
Deacon M. W. Wells,	6.82
TOTAL,	$60.29

MINISTERIAL DONATIONS

Rev. J. E. Chambers,	$ 2.00
Rev. N. G. Cox,	2.00
Rev. J. T. Dukes,	2.00
Rev. A. H. Stillwell,	2.00
Rev. W. T. Young,	2.00
Rev. A. M. Wiley,	2.00
Rev. J. H. Gudger,	2.00
TOTAL	$14.00

HIRE OF AUTOMOBILES

Brother J. V. Mills,	$20.00
Deacon B. M. Mackey,	20.00
TOTAL	$40.00

TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS

Officers,	$137.39
Trustees,	60.29

Ministers,	14.00
Automobiles,	40.00
Side Collections,	45.47
Total Appropriated,	$297.15

Total Receipts,	$238.61
Total Appropriated,	$297.15
Overdraft,	$ 58.54

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

Whereas, the good people of Waynesville and the Mt. Olive Baptist Church directed by the good and efficient Pastor, Dr. A. S. Copeny, have spared no pains in caring for this unusually large and varied delegation in the highest and the most pleasing manner, therefore be it resolved that this Convention go on record as expressing their warmest appreciation and invoke the blessings of almighty God who holds the destiny of men and nations in his hand, upon this Pastor, his members, and friends, and may the peace which passes all understanding and the joy of salvation rest, abide, and remain until our Convention is called eternal in the Gloryland where angelic voices are turned into seraphic harmony and sing our canticles of praise.

Respectfully submitted,

H. M. SMITH.

In Memoria

This memorial page is dedicated to the memory of the deceased officers and members of the Blue Ridge Missionary Baptist and Educational Convention:

Dr. J. R. Nelson, one of the organizers of the Convention and its first president. This position he held until his death.

Dr. J. I. Watson, a member of the Trustee Board of the Convention. A valuable co-worker until his death.

Many other brethren and sisters who have been called from labor to their reward.

Our lost, but heaven's gain.

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I. This body shall be known as the Blue Ridge Missionary Baptist and Educational Convention.

ARTICLE II. The object of this Convention shall be to evangelize the people through the Gospel of Jesus Christ, to do Home and Foreign Mission work, to establish or foster an institution of learning in Western North Carolina for the moral, religious, and the intellectual training of the youth of the race.

ARTICLE III. This Convention shall be composed of associations, district Sunday school conventions, Missionary Baptist Churches, and their auxiliaries.

ARTICLE IV. Each association or convention may send one or more delegates who shall bring a letter certifying their appointment and ten dollars as a representation fee, and the amount contributed to the various causes of the Convention.

ARTICLE V. Each church and its auxiliaries may represent by letter or by one or more delegates who shall bear a letter certifying their election, and five dollars as a representation fee.

ARTICLE VI. All Baptist members in good and regular standing in his church may become an annual member by paying fifty cents.

ARTICLE VII. This body shall have the following officers: President, vice-president, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, treasurer, auditor statistician, a board of trustees, and an executive board.

ARTICLE VIII. The above officers shall serve a term of one year.

ARTICLE IX. Should any officer be found guilty of any unbecoming conduct as a Christian, or found laboring against tne interest of the Convention in anyway, shall be impeached by the Executive Board or by the Convention in regular session.

ARTICLE X. The presiding officers shall receive for their services whatever compensation the Committee on Appropriations may recommend at the consent of the convention.

ARTICLE XI. The treasurer shall give a desirable bond before he shall take in hand the finance of the Convention.

ARTICLE XII. The officers of the Convention shall constitute the Executive Board, ex-officio.

ARTICLE XIII. The Executive Board shall meet at what-

ever time they may be called by the chairman of said board.

ARTICLE XIV. The expenses of the Executive Board shall be paid by the Convention, including railroad fare and board to all call meetings of the board.

ARTICLE XV. The expenses of the Trustee Board of the Convention shall be paid, including board and railroad fare.

ARTICLE XVI.. This Convention shall have a banking committee of five as follows: President, vice-president, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, and treasurer.

ARTICLE XVII. All money shall be placed in the bank to the credit of the Convention, and shall be drawn out by the signatures of the president, recording secretary, and treasurer.

ARTICLE XIX This Convention shall meet on Wednesday before the fourth Sunday in September in each consecutive year at 10:00 o'clock A. M.

ARTICLE XX. This Constitution may be revised at any annual meeting of the Convention by a two-third vote of the members present.

P. S. On motion by Call Convention at Sylva, February, 1927 that the Treasurer be commissioned to lend out the money of the Convention at a higher rate of interest with the consent of the Banking Committee.